

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A welding apparatus comprising:
an enclosure;
a power source constructed to output an electrical signal suitable to welding and disposed within the enclosure; and
a shielding gas regulator disposed within the enclosure and fluidly connected to a first gas source via a gas path free of restriction therein.
2. (Currently Amended) The welding apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first gas source is further defined as further comprising a gas cylinder, the gas cylinder connected to the shielding gas regulator and located at least partially within the enclosure.
3. (Original) The welding apparatus of claim 2 wherein the gas cylinder is disposable.
4. (Original) The welding apparatus of claim 2 further comprising a second gas cylinder connected to the shielding gas regulator and outside the enclosure.
5. (Original) The welding apparatus of claim 4 wherein the second gas cylinder is connected to the shielding gas regulator by a quick connector.
6. (Original) The welding apparatus of claim 1 further comprising an electric valve downstream of the shielding gas regulator that allows on/off flow therethrough.
7. (Original) The welding apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a valve and a gauge attached to the shielding gas regulator and accessible from outside the housing.

8. (Original) The welding apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a valve attached to the shielding gas regulator and adjustable from within the housing.

9. (Original) A welding device comprising:
a housing having a base and a cover;
a welding power source disposed within the housing and constructed to generate a signal suitable for welding;
a first gas path originating at a regulator located in the housing and constructed to provide a gas from a first source to a welding torch; and
a second gas path constructed to provide gas from another source to a welding torch.

10. (Original) The device of claim 9 wherein the regulator further comprises a valve and a gauge accessible from one of inside and outside the housing.

11. (Original) The device of claim 9 further comprising a gas cylinder attached to the regulator in the first gas path and enclosed in the housing.

12. (Original) The device of claim 9 wherein the first gas path and second gas path intersect within the housing.

13. (Original) The device of claim 9 wherein the second gas path further comprises a connector extending through the housing and arranged to engage a gas cylinder.

14. (Original) The device of claim 11 wherein the connector is a quick connector.

15. (Original) The device of claim 9 further comprising an opening in the housing constructed to allow passage of a gas cylinder therethrough and into engagement with the regulator therein.

16. (Original) The device of claim 9 wherein the power source is at least one of an inverter, an energy storage device, and a combination of an inverter and an energy storage device constructed to output an electrical signal capable of welding.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of constructing a welding apparatus comprising:

providing a power source constructed to provide a signal suitable to welding;

providing a regulator constructed to engage a welding gas cylinder; and

enclosing the power source and the regulator in an enclosure such that the regulator is adjustable when the enclosure is closed.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising passing a welding gas cylinder through an opening in the enclosure and into engagement with the regulator.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 further comprising providing a valve downstream of the regulator that is electronically controlled.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising providing a connection in communication with the regulator and passing through the enclosure to engage a welding gas cylinder external thereto.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17 further comprising extending at least one of a valve and a gauge attached to the regulator through the enclosure to allow operation and visual inspection, respectively, thereof.

22. (Original) A method of refilling a gas storage device in a welding power supply comprising:

at least partially enclosing a gas storage device within a housing of the welding power supply;

attaching the gas storage device to a regulator; and

directing a shielding gas flow from an external source into the gas storage device.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22 further comprising the step of delivering shielding gas from the gas storage device to a weld.